

Northwestern: The Early Years

By Marietta M. LeBreton
NSU Professor of History

In 1984 Northwestern State University will celebrate its centennial. One hundred years ago it was established as the first teacher-training institution in Louisiana. During its long and varied history the University, as a keystone of the state's educational system, has undergone numerous changes and met serious challenges. Its development from a two-building secondary school to a modern multifaceted university has not always been smooth and uninterrupted. But it has always been exciting and interesting. The participants have been many--administrators, students, faculty, alumni, friends--all contributing in some way to Northwestern's success story. As a part of the University's centennial celebration a comprehensive, scholarly history of the University is being prepared. The following synopsis has been drawn from the early chapters of this history which will be published by the Northwestern State University Press in 1984. To taste the flavor of the University completely one should read the entire book.

In the summer of 1884 the Louisiana legislature authorized the establishment of a state normal school to train teachers. Several towns sought the new school, and finally on October 6, 1884, Natchitoches was chosen principally because it offered the old convent facilities of the Religious Sacred Heart as a site for the new school. The convent grounds were occupied by two buildings--the Bullard mansion built in 1832 and the Convent building erected in 1857. In December, Dr. Edward E. Sheib of Baltimore, Maryland, was named president of the Natchitoches school where he faced "the almost insurmountable problems of creating a school out of a wilderness." He later wrote that the Normal School opened in November, 1885, in a "half-ruined building surrounded by a wilderness of thorns and trees...without desks, without benches, without books and blackboards, with the rain pouring through the broken roof, and the wind sweeping through halls that could not be closed." The bright spots of the Normal's opening were the sixty students enrolled in the two-year course and the three faculty members, including the president, who were hired to develop the curriculum. After three years of inadequate funding, faculty unrest, and conflicts with the school's Board of Administrators, President Sheib resigned. The most immediate reason for his leaving was the conflict with the board over the dismissal and subsequent reinstatement of two young women students who ordered by mail a pamphlet "publicizing painless and safe childbirth." However, when President Sheib left the Normal there was no longer any doubt about its continuance. The foundations were well constructed by his unceasing labors.

In 1888 Thomas Duckett Boyd took up the reigns of the Normal School as its second president. Born in Virginia but educated and later a professor at Louisiana State University, Colonel Boyd continued the excellent work of the teachers' institutes, increased the faculty from three to fifteen, and extended the normal course to three and then four years to include more academic subjects. He then exclaimed, "Our graduates hereafter will be qualified to fill any position in the public schools from the primary to the high school." Normal's graduates came from a student body numbering 362 the last year of President Boyd's tenure. To enter the Normal School a young lady had to be fifteen years old and a young man sixteen. Tuition was free for any student who promised to teach at least one year in public schools of Louisiana. At the time the State Normal School was strictly a teacher-training institution but in the 1890's President Boyd unsuccessfully tried to add industrial courses to prevent the establishment of an industrial institute at Ruston (Louisiana Tech) which he felt would be a "perpetual menace" to the Normal. Attending the Normal in the 1890's was an exciting experience for young people never before



away from home. Immediately visible upon entering the campus were the two original buildings. Bullard mansion and the Convent building, which were converted into women dormitories. In 1890, a third building, the dining hall was added to the campus and finally in 1895 a three-story wooden administrative building, Boyd Hall. From the beginning the State Normal provided boarding facilities in the normal club for young ladies at the cost of from \$12 to \$15 a month including board, room, and laundry. Other young ladies and all male students lived in approved boarding houses in town. Studies were of paramount importance, but to develop their social as well as educational capacities, Normal students founded two literary societies--the Seekers After Knowledge in 1890 and the Eclectic Literary in 1892. These societies became prominent on campus and

later provided the colors--purple and white--for the University. Although discipline was strict at the Normal, there were very few violations of the school's regulations. "Everything about the State Normal School shows system and discipline and the pupils march at the tap of a drum." Beginning with a graduation class of three, by 1895 the Normal had sent 167 trained teachers into the schools of Louisiana, and T.H. Harris, Superintendent of Public Education, commented, "The Establishment of the State Normal school was by far the most important thing ever done in the interest of public education." On July 11, 1896, President Boyd left Natchitoches to return to Louisiana State University as its president.

The State Normal's third president was Beverly C. Caldwell who administered the school from July, 1896, to August, 1908. A native of Kentucky and a professional educator, President Caldwell continued the institute program, intensified the expansion of the school's plant, improved student living conditions, modified the curriculum, and realized a rising enrollment. Normal buildings increased from four to eight during the Caldwell years including two new women's dormitories, a model school, and a new administration-classroom building (Caldwell Hall) begun in 1906 and completed two years later. Caldwell Hall was the first brick building erected on campus and was easily the most impressive structure. In realizing his building program, the Normal president had to beg for appropriations and then skimp and save to build with less money than was desirable. In some cases he had to transfer funds from one purpose to another and violate other usual financial practices to achieve his objectives. Eventually, his actions in expanding the Normal's physical plant were to be responsible in part for his removal from the presidency. Meanwhile the heating and lighting systems of the school were improved by the introduction of steam heat and electric lights in place of open fireplaces, wood burning stoves, and oil lamps. President Caldwell also significantly altered the school's curriculum by introducing an elective system, new courses, and a summer term. Upon his resignation in 1908, James B. Aswell was elected to succeed him. In his short three-year term, Mr. Aswell's most notable contributions to the school were the institution of a quarter system and raising graduation requirements. (continued on page 2)

LeBreton Writes Scholarly, Interesting History

The Northwestern Centennial celebration's major project, which began last year, is Dr. Marietta M. LeBreton's scholarly but interesting history of the university that is scheduled for publication in 1984 by the NSU Press.

Dr. LeBreton, a noted professor of history at NSU, has been collecting a wide range of human interest material and interviewing former administrators, faculty members and students.

"This history of Northwestern will cover from Oct. 6, 1884, the day it was founded by the state legislature, through the present," states the former History Department chairman who is an authority on Louisiana history. "Much of the university's history will focus on Northwestern's human interest side, particularly student life."

According to the author, research material relating to the early years of Northwestern has come from old diaries, letters and other documents people have that pertain to their involvement with the university.

Dr. LeBreton has been a professor at Northwestern since 1963, and served as chairman of the History Department from 1980 to 1983. Recognized throughout the south for her research and publications in the field of Louisiana history, the NSU professor holds three degrees from Louisiana State University, including the Ph.D. degree in history.

Significant publications by Dr. LeBreton are "Bayou Dorcheat" in "The Rivers and Bayous of Louisiana," "The Burr Conspiracy" in "Readings in Louisiana History" and "Acadians" in the "Harvard Encyclopedia of American Ethnic Groups."

For years she has been teaching the Louisiana history undergraduate course and has team taught a course on state and local history which focused on life in Natchitoches in the 1700s.

Dr. LeBreton has served on the board of directors of both the Louisiana Historical Association and the North Louisiana Historical Association. She has also given numerous speeches to history and cultural groups.

To reserve a copy of Dr. LeBreton's history of Northwestern, write John M. Price, NSU press, Northwestern State University, Natchitoches, La. 71497.



MARIETTA LEBRETON



A Game With The Children



A Classroom

The Early Years Gave Us Good Foundations

(continued from page 1)

In 1911 when President Aswell resigned to run for governor, the Normal's enrollment had reached 1,863. With more women students residing on campus, the club's rules regulating their activities became more restrictive. Young ladies were prohibited from entertaining young gentlemen, having a male escort when attending church services or social gatherings, and going to town except at certain specified times. Violators were disciplined by the Normal president. For instance, in 1901, after several warnings, a co-ed was sent home for randomly writing University cadets, playing slot machines in town, and finally planning to meet clandestinely some young men at night. Despite these restrictions, Normal students enjoyed campus life immensely especially the proliferation of activities at the turn of the century. Additional literary societies were established, the first issue of the *Potpourri* was published in 1909, religious organizations came into being, and a Normal band was organized in 1911. Sports also began to play an important part in student life. In 1911 the Normal football team expanded its schedule to include Tulane and L.S.U. as well as "every team of note in the state." Although the lightest in Normal history, averaging 139 pounds, they made a "respectable showing."

In July, 1911, Victor L. Roy was elected the fifth president of the Normal and served in that office for eighteen years. During his tenure the school began granting bachelor's degrees in 1918 and, in

recognition of its new status, was renamed Louisiana State Normal College in 1921. The college gained regional and national recognition as one of the South's leading teacher-training institutions and in 1926 was accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. President Roy enhanced the academic image of the Normal by raising admission and graduation requirements, instituting new programs such as rural education, beginning correspondence courses and an extension division, inaugurating a point system, and raising the standards of the faculty. Three hundred acres and several new buildings were added to the campus during his administration. Among these were additional dormitories including the first men's dormitory, a new model school, the first gymnasium, and a new education building, Warren Easton. Despite his outstanding achievements, President Roy is perhaps best remembered for his strict discipline and opposition to the new social mores of the 1920's. Feeling that he must counteract "the loose tendencies of these reckless, post-bellum days," President Roy tried to prevent the girls from bobbing their hair by threatening to dismiss them and vehemently opposed the use of cosmetics by women students. Even coca cola was banned from the campus until 1925. Women students had only restricted contact with the opposite sex. They could mingle with boys at literary society meetings, lyceum entertainments, Friday night movies, and walking to and from Sunday church services. Even the weekly movies were closely

monitored by the president periodically flipping on the lights to see that all were acting properly. Young ladies were absolutely forbidden to "joy ride" with young men in automobiles and several co-eds were sent home for violating this rule. The girls were expected to wear modest clothing and had to "pass inspection" by President Roy before leaving campus. Student organizations multiplied with rapidity at the Normal in the 1920's and a student newspaper, *The Current Sauce*, began publication. Fraternities and sororities made their appearance along with a student government association and honor system. Traditions such as senior day, the cedar rope, and class memorials developed. Despite the remarkable progress of the institution during his eighteen-year administration, President Roy was forced to resign in 1929 by pressure from the newly elected governor, Huey P. Long.

By the time V.L. Roy left the Normal, the college's enrollment had risen to 3,546 and the Normal was, without a doubt, the leading teacher-training institution in Louisiana. Its progress had been phenomenal and its place in the educational system of the state was secure. Yet, in many ways, the Normal College's greatest years were still to come when it expanded its services to meet the needs of Louisiana in areas outside of education. The modern University certainly had good foundations from its early years on which to build.

Next issue — "Northwestern: The Later Years."

Centennial Celebration To Be People-Oriented

By Thomas N. Whitehead
Centennial Committee Member

Over the last several months, I have had the unique opportunity of being involved in preparing for the Centennial year at Northwestern.

Of course, the scope of the Centennial celebration will involve nearly every facet of university life. As I have sat down to work on various projects from the Centennial Poster to the Kick-Off Banquet to the grand finale weekend next October 5 and 6, what has kept coming to mind has been the people of Northwestern.

My earliest knowledge of Northwestern came from school teachers reminiscing about their days at Old Normal in a small rural school I attended in East Baton Rouge Parish. Today the classes of interested and dedicated students I teach at Northwestern keep reminding me over and over there is a feeling about our alma

mater that permeates graduates of the past and present. That spirit of Ol' Normal has persisted and become updated as the school became a college and then in 1970 a university with campuses now located all over Northwest Louisiana.

Our Centennial celebration will be people-oriented to rekindle that esprit de corps and launch our University into its second century of service to the students, community and the state. There will be major events and projects throughout the 1984 calendar year commemorating the 100th birthday. However, our Centennial Committee has made a deliberate effort to personalize the celebration. Just as our country's bi-centennial in 1976 emphasized each state and community doing "their own thing" rather than some grand national event, we are urging groups of students and alumni to plan events that will be meaningful

to the members themselves and their organizations.



THOMAS N. WHITEHEAD

Various groups such as sororities, fraternities, the Student Government Association, Blue Key and others are now planning reunions at times throughout the year. Academic departments have been asked to participate by scheduling activities appropriate to their areas.

Already exhibits, workshops, symposiums, and other special events are being arranged.

Several alumni have contacted the Alumni Office here wanting to plan reunions for their graduating classes. One alumni group is now seeking donations to add to an initial \$1000.00 gift to place a "birthday present" on the campus in honor of their graduating class.

The initiative of students, faculty, and alumni to define our Centennial festivities reflect admirably on the that Ol' Normal spirit. With the number of different activities being planned, there is little chance of our 100th birthday party becoming repetitious or dull.

The formal events being planned throughout the year will be a cornerstone for all the others. Many of these reunions and special activities will be surrounding the

(continued on page 18)

Centennial Gifts

A poster commemorating the Centennial of Northwestern State University has been designed by Susan Norman, graphic/artist at the University.

The poster is available in two editions. A hand-silk screened limited edition of 100 signed and numbered copies can be ordered on a first come basis for \$100 each from the N.S.U. Foundation, Northwestern State University, Natchitoches, LA 71497. If you are ordering by mail, include \$6.00 for postage and handling charges.

A printed edition is available for \$10.00 each plus \$3.00 for postage and handling. These can also be ordered from the NSU Foundation.

The poster has incorporated scenes from old Potpourris into a collage effect. The background scene in the poster is an early photograph of the original Bullard mansion when all four columns were intact.

Susan Norman and Dr. Bill Bryant, head of the Art Department, did the silk-screening of the 100 edition. The Franklin Press in Baton Rouge printed the series of 1000.

Those persons purchasing the \$100 editions will be designated Poster Patrons and receive two invitations to a reception at the President's home on Wednesday, January 25, 1984. Dr. and Mrs. Orze will host the event where the posters may be picked up. The reception will begin at 6 p.m. prior to the Centennial Kickoff Banquet at 7:30 p.m.

Also available through the NSU Foundation will be a desk calendar depicting scenes from the university's past and a list of upcoming events for 1984.



NORTHWESTERN State University of Louisiana



Celebration of a Century 1884~1984

Order Form			
NUMBER DESIRED	ITEM	PRICE	
	Silk Screened Posters	\$106 (\$100 plus \$6 for postage)	
	Printed Posters	\$13.00 (\$10 plus \$3.00 postage)	
	Desk Calendars	\$7.00 (\$5 plus \$2.00 postage)	

Please make checks payable to NSU Foundation. Total Price _____

Send your order to:
Centennial Gifts
NSU Foundation
Natchitoches, LA 71497

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____



An historically accurate menu, possibly served family style as was done in the Club Dining Room of Normal, is planned for Centennial Celebration Kick-Off Banquet.

100th Anniversary Kicks Off January 25

Northwestern State University's year-long 100th anniversary celebration will officially begin on Wednesday, Jan. 25, with the Centennial Kick-Off Banquet at 7:30 p.m. in the Student Union Ballroom.

A capacity crowd of 400 people is

expected to attend the banquet, which is the first of many events that are scheduled throughout 1984 to commemorate this significant time in the university's history. A reception will be held in the foyer of the Student Union at 6:30 p.m.

Tickets for the Centennial Kick-Off Banquet may be obtained by calling (318) 357-4414 or writing the Office of External Affairs, Northwestern State University, Natchitoches, La. 71497. They will also be available in the Student Union at NSU and at the Natchitoches Area Chamber of Commerce.

Northwestern dean of students Dr. Fred C. Bosarge is coordinating the banquet program, which is expected to open with Natchitoches Mayor Joe Sampite's proclamation of 1984 as the "NSU Centennial Year" in the city.

The Centennial Fund Drive--a major effort to raise thousands of dollars for the establishment of a faculty chair, scholarships and endowments--will be formally announced to highlight the banquet program.

According to Bosarge, plans are being made for banquet participants to be treated to an historically accurate menu, possibly served family style as the food service was done during the early days of Ol' Normal.

For the program, the 100 years of Northwestern's history will be divided into three eras: the Normal years from 1884 to 1944; the College

years from 1944 to 1970, and the University years from 1970 to the present.

One or two speakers from each of the three eras will be asked to reminisce about their days at Northwestern. Also, a unique slide show of photography and music that was popular during those periods in Northwestern's history will accent this entertaining segment of the program.

Scheduled to be unveiled at the banquet is the university's official Centennial Poster, which has been designed for this occasion by NSU graphic artist Susan Norman.

The poster has incorporated scenes from old Potpourris into a collage effect. The background scene in the poster is an early photograph of the original Bullard Mansion when all four columns were intact.

There will be several special recognitions made during the banquet, most notably the oldest living graduate of Northwestern. It is believed that 97-year-old Alwine Whitfield Duncan of Monroe is the oldest living graduate, having attended State Normal School from 1903 to 1904. Efforts to locate an older living graduate will continue up until the banquet.

As the finale of the Centennial Kick-Off Banquet, the Centennial Westminster Chimes will be dedicated, and a mini-concert will be played on the chimes for 20 to 30

minutes following the event.

Installed last spring on top of the A.A. Fredericks Center for the Creative and Performing Arts, the chimes system--the Mass-Rowe Chronobell with cartridge Carillon--was purchased by the students of Northwestern as a Centennial gift.



Alwine Duncan of Monroe, at 97 years of age the oldest known living graduate of State Normal School. She attended in 1903-1904.

Mary Washington of Mansfield, one of the first graduates of Louisiana State Normal School in 1886.

Its Travels Begin in January

'NSU Comes To You!' Exhibit

In 1984 a traveling photographic exhibit depicting the history of Northwestern State University will be touring libraries, festivals and fairs throughout Louisiana to make people aware of NSU's Centennial celebration.

Mrs. Maxine Southerland, director of the Center for the History of Education in Louisiana, is developing the exhibit, which will feature more than 20 photographs reproduced by NSU director of photography Don R. Sepulvado.

Beginning in January and continuing through December, the exhibit will provide an opportunity for people to view in one composite a series of photographs representing college student life from the past 100 years on a Louisiana college campus.

This interesting capsule of NSU's past and present will offer a variety of photographs from each of the university's eras: State Normal School, 1884-1921; Louisiana State

Normal School, 1921-1944; Northwestern State College, 1944-1970, and Northwestern State University, 1970-present.

"If it has become difficult for you to return to your alma mater, don't despair-NSU is coming to you!" Mrs. Southerland exclaimed recently to group of alumni.

She stated, "The display will include a pictorial history of the Normal years, the College years and the University years, along with a collection of Potpourri yearbooks. Perhaps photographs of your athletic team, your club or even you will be featured, or your yearbook highlighted."

Research began four years ago to locate the best representative photographs from each of the university's four eras to include in the traveling exhibit. Most of the photographs have been copied from old issues of the Potpourri, student handbooks and catalogues.

Several unique photographs are being featured in the exhibit, like the two pictures of Bullard Mansion--one showing a troop of Union soliders in front and the other a portrait of a large group of college women in the "Normal Club at Home."

Harry "Rags" Turpin, the legendary football coach at Northwestern, is the subject of a composite showcasing him as a student "man of the year" in the 1930's. "This is a gorgeous layout, especially for that period of time," states Sepulvado.

Also included in the exhibit is a photograph of a page showing the minutes from the organizational meeting of the Louisiana State Normal School Alumni Association, which was formed on May 30, 1894, in Ruston with President Thomas Duckett Boyd presiding as chairman of the gathering.

Next to the founding of the school itself, this may well have been the most important event in the history of Northwestern.

The schedule for the "NSU Comes to You" exhibit included month-long showings at the Rapides Parish Library in Alexandria in January, the Vernon Parish Library in Leesville in February, Calcasieu Parish Library in Lake Charles in March, Lafayette Parish Library in Lafayette in April, the State Department of Education in Baton Rouge in May, the New Orleans Library in New Orleans in June, the Natchitoches Folk Festival and Natchitoches Parish Library in July, Winn Parish Library in Winnfield in August, Ouachita Parish Library in Monroe in September, the Louisiana State Fair in Shreveport in October, Red River Parish Library in Coushatta and DeSoto Parish Library in Mansfield in November, and the Sabine Parish Library in Many in December.



CENTENNIAL EXHIBIT SCHEDULE

January	Alexandria	Rapides Parish Library 411 Washington Street (318) 445-2411
February	Leesville	Vernon Parish Library 301 East Court House (318) 239-2027
March	Lake Charles	Calcasieu Parish Library 411 Pujot (318) 433-1045
April	Lafayette	Lafayette Parish Library 301 West Congress
May	Baton Rouge	State Department of Education 626 N. 4th (504) 342-3624
June	New Orleans	New Orleans Library 219 Loyola Avenue (504) 524-7382
July	Natchitoches	Natchitoches Folk Festival NSU Pratber Coliseum (318) 357-4332
	Natchitoches	Natchitoches Parish Library 431 Jefferson (318) 352-2415
August	Winnfield	Winn Parish Library 204 West Main Street (318) 628-4478
September	Monroe	Ouachita Parish Library 1800 Stubs Avenue (318) 387-1950
October	Shreveport	Louisiana State Fair Fairgrounds (318) 635-1361
November	Coushatta (first two weeks)	Red River Parish Library 2022 Alonzo Avenue (318) 932-5614
	Mansfield (last two weeks)	DeSoto Parish Library 104 Crosby Street (318) 872-6100
December	Many	Sabine Parish Library 750 East Main Street (318) 256-2212

Northwestern Must Be Flexible and Responsive in Future

By Dr. Joseph J. Orze
President of NSU

Crystal balls are hard to find. Most of the ones I have seen have been decorative. Many were of the kind that you shake to create a miniature snow scene. No matter how hard I search, I cannot find that magical crystal ball in which scenes of the future reveal themselves rather than idyllic artificial snowstorms.



DR. JOSEPH J. ORZE

I remember reading about Prometheus in Greek mythology. He was a remarkable titan who could see into the future. It was an amazing gift, but it did not always bring him joy, because although he could see the future, its events did not always favor or please him. Prometheus had a twin named Epimetheus. Unlike Prometheus, Epimetheus could not see the future. He could not even see the present here and now in which he existed. What he could do was to see perfectly the things in the past.

Without a crystal ball or the future vision of Prometheus, I find it an almost impossible task to look at the next century of Northwestern State University's existence. Like Epimetheus, I can look backward and see the past century of the University's existence with acute clarity. Perhaps what I see can help to speculate on what should be for Northwestern through the year 2084, although what I am dealing with are more accurately described as hopes for rather than visions of the future.

One thing that we have learned from the past one hundred years is that there is no endurance to a so-called status quo. As times and circumstances change, institutions must also change to continue to be viable. In the past, Northwestern was most successful as it responded to the needs of its region and people. It came into being because there was a need to educate teachers for the reconstruction of the South after the Civil War. It flourished when its primary mission was teacher education for all levels of the teaching profession. It responded well to the demands of its constituency for a multi-purpose college of higher learning; and it experienced some setbacks when changing societal expectations, demographics and competition from newly constructed institutions of higher education in its nearby metropolitan areas presented it with challenges for change that were not adequately responded to.

The future, like the past, will see changes in our society, its economics, demographics and politics,

which will make it necessary for Northwestern State University to be flexible and responsive in order to remain viable as a regional State support university. It is an almost impossible guess, perhaps an irresponsible resumption, to presume what kinds of changes will take place in our society and project specific kinds of responses by the University in effectively meeting them. What changes in terms of the society's demands on and expectations of be alert for signs of impending needs for change and be prepared and willing to effectively respond to those needs.

One thing becomes abundantly more clear and does not require a crystal ball to realize that in the future Northwestern is going to have to generate monies in substantial amounts in addition to relying upon State subsidies for financing its operations. The margin of excellence in the future for Northwestern will have to be financed by gifts and bequests of the University's friends and alumni as well as business and industry, and foundations interested in and supportive of our efforts and accomplishments.

The University may grow in size, but it will never be a large university. Therefore, it must stress growth in quality while working to increase the size of its student body. Excellence must be a constant goal of the University, and it cannot allow the pursuit of it to be compromised by a concentration on securing bodies to increase the University's enrollment.

As I have stated so often in all types of discussions, writings and fora regarding Northwestern State University: We must always strive for excellence in all that we do and are a part of, and we must do it with integrity. This must be the credo of the University as it faces its second hundred years. Change will come, and we must be prepared for it. If we are, as the University looks back on its second hundred years, it will do so with pride and then point to even finer developments beyond 2084.

Presidents of Northwestern's Student Government Association

1927	Truett L. Scarborough
1927-28	J.B. Wooley
1928-29	Earl Arken
1929-30	Gillis Ledet
1956-57	Don Morgan
1957-58	Bill Steward
1958-59	John Barkate
1959-60	James Slack
1960-61	David Burton Howard
1961-62	Roland McKneely
1962-63	Hayward "Sonny" Hardgrove
1963-64	Hayward "Sonny" Hardgrove
1964-65	Steve Blount
1965-66	J.O. Charrier
1966-67	Milton Rhea
1967-68	Dennis Newbury
1968-69	Henry Burns
1969-70	Henry Burns
1970-71	David Precht
1971-72	Lynn Killen
1972-73	(Fall) Rodney Dye (Spring) Steve McGee
1973-74	Jack Damico
1974-75	Rodney Harrington
1975-76	J. Gregory Ross
1977-78	David Walker
1978-79	John McKellar
1979-80	Terry McCarty
1980-81	Cliff Lopez
1981-82	Joe Stamey
1983-84	Deana Grau

Our Centennial Year Is Coming

By Raymond Arthur
Alumni Association President

NSU will begin its Centennial celebration in January, 1984. Many special events will be held at Northwestern, culminating in a special birthday party at Homecoming on October 6, 1984. Northwestern came into existence as an institution (Louisiana Normal) on October 6, 1884. Our Homecoming is scheduled for October 6, 1984, so the dates are perfect for a gigantic birthday party in honor of our University.

During the several months of the Centennial celebration, NSU will have many special events, including academic programs, lecture series, a NSU historical publication, a special Centennial print as a collector's item, and many other special events. We are especially pleased that we will have our Alumni house renovated and in use. As you probably already know, the old President's cottage is our Alumni house, and funds have been budgeted for its renovation this coming year. We think you will be excited and pleased with our new Alumni house.

Our NSU Alumni chapter organization is progressing well. Under the leadership of Gary Jones, Director of Alumni Affairs, and Ray Carney, Director of External Affairs, and the staff, we now have some 16 chapters established around the State. Others are planned, and if you do not have a chapter in your area, please call Ray or Gary and discuss with them a chapter for your area. We need your help.

Many good things are happening at Northwestern. Recent enrollment figures show clearly that our student enrollment has stabilized. This reverses a slow downward enrollment trend, and it is a very encouraging sign. New academic programs have been adopted which we believe will enhance the academic image of NSU. New programs for student recruitment and retention are also in effect.

NSU also has the new Creative and Performing Arts Center open and in use at this time. If you have not visited this extraordinary Center, please try to do so at your first opportunity. It is most impressive, and has been described as one of the outstanding Creative and Performing Arts Centers in the South.

We would like to congratulate the new band director, Bill Brent, for the outstanding performances by the NSU Band. The NSU Alumni and Foundation are doing some special work to increase the size of the band, and we should see the results of this work next year.



RAYMOND ARTHUR



Senior at LSNL in 1942



NSC Faculty Member in 1952



Vice-President in 1983

George Stokes Witnesses 45 Years of Progress

Few people have as much insight into the significance of Northwestern's upcoming Centennial celebration as George Stokes, who has been associated with the university for more than 45 years as a student, faculty member, alumnus, dean and vice-president.

Dr. Stokes became an assistant professor in Northwestern's social sciences department in 1949, and 34 years of service make the vice-president for university affairs the senior member of the university's faculty and staff in terms of tenure.

He was a faculty member for 14 years before his appointment as dean of the college of arts and sciences in 1963. After 20 years as dean, Stokes was appointed last summer as vice-president for university affairs.

But Stokes' association with Northwestern goes back to 1938 when he left Winnfield to enroll at Louisiana State Normal College, now NSU. His interest was social studies, but Stokes says, "Everyone graduated in those days with a teaching certificate."

Like most of the male students at Northwestern in the late 1930's, Stokes lived in Sheib Hall, affectionately known to generations of students as the Brick Shack. The building was removed years ago to make room for Northwestern's modern new Eugene P. Watson Library.

Stokes was impressed as a youngster with "the closeness of the student body." There were only some 1,500 students at the school, and the small physical plant of the late thirties and early forties extended only from the stadium to the "quadrangle."

The quadrangle was formed by Warren Easton, Caldwell Hall, Guardia Hall and Russell Library, and Stokes said campus activity "was centered around the quadrangle. The post office, faculty and administrative offices, bookstore and nearly everything else was in and around Caldwell Hall."

Virtually all school events were held on campus, Stokes said, because few students had cars. He still remembers the long lines of college girls parading into town for Sunday church services or afternoon movies. "They went in groups and had to sign out to leave the campus," according to Stokes.

The student body even went to the State Fair game against Louisiana Tech as a group, Stokes recalled. "A train would pull up to the campus, take us to the game and bring us back that night," he said.

But the "big game" was an opportunity for students to kick up their heels even then. "On the way home, students got busy and removed all the light-bulbs from the passenger car," he laughed. "We were chaperoned, but deans and teachers couldn't do much chaperoning with the lights out."

And even then, a trip to Shreveport was an opportunity for students to pack into the old Washington Youree Hotel for a gigantic pep rally "that really wasn't that much different from the rallies the students have today," he stated.

Students at Normal College had assemblies, musical and dramatic programs, intramural athletics and other activities, but the male students--like Stokes--wandered off campus for entertainment occasionally to places like Ackel's Bar. The son of a Presbyterian minister, Stokes had not participated in such experiences back in Winnfield.

War was raging in Europe when Stokes was a student at Normal, so it was not unusual for him to have an interest in the military. He joined the Citizens Military Training Corps--what he called a "poor boy's ROTC"--and received a commission in the Army.

After graduation from Normal in 1942, Stokes served in the 101st Airborne Division in Europe for four years during World War II, reaching the rank of 1st Lieutenant.

Interested in geology, Stokes enrolled in graduate school at Louisiana State University. He received a graduate assistantship to teach geology and

enjoyed the classroom work so much that he decided to make teaching his career.

President Joe Gibson hired Stokes to teach social studies at Northwestern after Stokes earned his master's degree from LSU, and Stokes joined an academic department headed by Dr. John S. Kyser, who would later become president of the college.

"Northwestern was much the same as it was when I left," he said. "This quadrangle was the center of the campus. Men lived in the Brick Shack or Caspari, and women lived in Varnado, Agnes Morris, Kate Chopin, Audubon and Carondelet. Bienville was the dining hall. The stadium was still at the southern edge of the campus, and the 'new' fine arts building had become the major structure of Northwestern."

All of the buildings have become victims of progress. Old Demon Stadium is now the foundation for a sprawling new Turpin Stadium and athletic complex. The women's dorms were torn down to make way for new buildings.

The Fine Arts Building has been renovated and is now part of a multi-million dollar fine arts complex that also occupies the space where the old student center once stood. Bienville was closed for years before being destroyed by fire, and Caspari has been renovated to house administrative offices.

"There is no doubt that the greatest changes have come in the physical plant during my years here," Stokes said. "When I joined the faculty, everything west of the stadium and the old dining hall was woods, pastures and a quail farm. Now the center of the campus has shifted to that once-undeveloped area."

As a social studies teacher, Stokes got to know most of Northwestern's students, because all students were required to take Social Studies 101 and 102, courses that he often taught.

"I would have as many as 240 students in some of those classes," he said. "We would meet in the auditorium of Russell Hall, and if the room wouldn't hold everybody, the class would be moved to the Fine Arts Auditorium."

Stokes enjoyed the close association with students and says now that students "are the best thing about my whole experience here. They have provided my most enjoyable and rewarding experiences over the past 34 years."

Students, Stokes says, have changed in some ways "but in other ways are very much the same." When he came to Northwestern, students were very conservative. They were mostly small town boys and girls who had been reared in rural, conservative homes, and they reflected their upbringing.

He noted that the "campus revolution" of the 1960's "might have touched us a little, but our students were never as rebellious or as revolutionary as those that we read or heard about in other places."

Perhaps the greatest change, he says, "is that students now are much better off materially. They have cars, and they have money to spend for entertainment. This is relatively new. Most of the kids who were here in the forties, fifties and even the early sixties had little money, and few had cars. Their activities were centered on campus."

While the thousands of campus events of 34 years often understandably run together for George Stokes, he cites a few especially-memorable moments.

One came in the 1960's when anti-Vietnam War sentiment reached its peak in the nation. A Northwestern graduate, who had become what Stokes called "a genuine, solid gold hero" in Vietnam, was injured in the war and confined to a wheelchair.

The former Northwestern student requested that the honors and medals which he had won in battle be presented in ceremonies at his alma mater. The

(continued on page 12)

72 Years Ago

Henry W. Stopher Originated 'The Normal Band'

(Original Text from The Potpourri, 1912)

During the Spring term of 1911 Henry W. Stopher, who has been a cornetist for several years, called a meeting of all the boys in the Normal who were interested in starting a band. On April 12, 1911, 16 boys reported for practice, with instruments they had obtained from the town of Natchitoches. The following were soon members:

H.W. Stopher, leader; H.L. Waterbury, Newton Voiers, Russell Bobbitt, J.E. Freeman, cornets; P.O. Robertson, W. Dunkelmann, James Dezendorf, altos; Roe Brown, piccolo; H. Kaffie and R. Levy, trombones; Edwin McClung and Allen Melton, baritones; R. Metoyer and M. Kaffie, drums.

Through the efforts of Stopher and the other members the number in the band increased until at the close of the Summer term in August the band consisted of 50 members. Several left at the close of that term. In the mean-

time, instruments had been procured by giving benefit concerts and other entertainments. The band was enabled to buy the following horns: two E-flat basses, two B-flat basses, one baritone, one trombone, two altos and an E-flat cornet. The smaller instruments, such as clarinets, flutes and cornets, were brought by the members. Several members have graduated and a few have dropped out. The band now consists of 36 pieces. All are working hard on an elaborate concert to be given as an anniversary celebration.

When over \$200 had been accumulated in their treasury, the band decided to buy uniforms. With the further aid of Mr. P.T. Hedges, the suits were ordered and received in February, 1912. They are cadet gray, with black and white trimmings.

The band played for every football game during last season. A band stand will very shortly be built in the Athletic Park, and the boys expect to give the baseball team its best support this spring.



THE FIRST NORMAL BAND

'Alumni Band of 100' Planned for Homecoming

All former members and directors of Northwestern marching bands are being invited to participate in the "Alumni Band of 100," an old timers group which will be featured in a special Centennial Homecoming performance on Oct. 6, 1984.

William E. Brent, who is completing his first year as director of bands at NSU, is organizing the "Alumni Band of 100."

"Our goal is to have 100 marchers for the celebration of the past 100 years of the university," said Brent. "We want to put on the field one former band member for each year that Northwestern has been in existence."

This will be the seventh year that the old timers band has participated in the university's Homecoming program, first appearing in 1978 when Royce Blackwell was director of bands.

"For the Centennial," said Brent, "we will make every effort to determine the whereabouts of every living former member of Northwestern marching bands and invite them to be a part of the 'Alumni Band of 100.' This will be an important day for the university and a most significant occasion for the band program and Music Department."

Former members and directors of NSU marching bands are requested to inform the Music Department of their present whereabouts. Their names and addresses will be added to a computer mailing list so they can receive information about the Centennial and the "Alumni Band of 100."

For additional information about the "Alumni Band of 100," call (318) 357-4522 or write William E. Brent, Music Department, Northwestern State University, Natchitoches, La. 71497; Hal Jennings, 8450 E. Kings Highway, Shreveport, La. 71115, or Pam

Strange, 2423 Douglas Drive, Bossier City, La. 71111.

In conjunction with the formation of the "Alumni Band of 100," NSU senior vocal music performance major Howard Burkett of Natchitoches is writing a history of the Northwestern marching band, a project that begins with Henry W. Stopher organizing The Normal Band in 1911.

Burkett's historical review of the NSU marching band will reveal that Charles G. Berger, in 1915-16, had the first band from the university to perform at the Louisiana State Fair.

He will also note that Darden Ford was the director in 1916-17 when an all-female band "was almost laughed off campus."

The band was discontinued from 1917 to 1931 because of several reasons, including World War I, declining enrollment, shortage of men and a general lack of interest.

Gilbert Saetre refounded the band in 1931, and it has been a part of the university tradition ever since.

NSU Band Directors

1911-15	Henry W. Stopher	1965-73	J. Robert Smith
1915-16	Charles G. Berger	1973-77	Jerry Payne
1916-17	Darden Ford	1977-79	Royce Blackwell
1917-31	Band Discontinued	1979-82	V. Kenneth Caldwell
1931-41	Gilbert Saetre	1982-83	Guy G. Gauthreaux II
1941-65	Dwight G. Davis	1983-84	William E. Brent

Homecoming Queens

1935	Meha Woodward
1936	Ottie Mae Duncan
1937	Willie Lou Talbot
1938	Ann Butts
1940	Sybil Childress
1941	Grace Barrios
1950	Kathryn Henry
1951	Mittie Lancaster
1952	Glynn Ellen Pennington
1953	Gene Jensen
1954	Ann Phillips
1955	Patsy White
1956	Pat Murphy
1957	Laurie Henningan
1958	Helen Holleman
1959	Billie Johnston
1960	Yvonne Nettles
1961	Jo Ann Robinson
1962	Peggy Swor
1963	Connie Pence
1964	Cellia Willis
1965	Carolyn Thomas
1966	Becky Patrick
1967	Toni Walker
1968	Martha Miniville
1969	Kathleen Budd
1970	Carla McCain
1971	Diana Phillips
1972	Kay McKnight
1973	Margaret Zulick
1974	Margaret Zulick
1975	Elisa Cooper
1976	Martha Allen
1977	Sandy Spohn
1978	Diane McKellar
1979	Donna Bray
1980	Wendy Cox
1981	Allison Breazeale
1982	Diana Adams
1983	Laurie Weaver
1984	Kim Kimble

The Alumni Columns

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NSU ALUMNI OFFICERS

President	Raymond Arthur Natchitoches, 1964
Vice-President	Parker Wiggins Monroe, 1941
Secretary-Treasurer	Ray Carney Natchitoches, 1967
Executive Director	Gary Jones Natchitoches, 1975

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mrs. Marjorie Dial	Baton Rouge, 1935
Ladd Alexander	Shreveport, 1950
Daniel E. Sullivan	New Orleans, 1968
Stan Powell	Shreveport, 1948
Carroll Long	Lafayette, 1970
Dale Bernard	Lake Charles, 1972

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Deana Grau, Shreveport SGA President

NSU Homecoming Being Planned

"Happy Birthday, Northwestern!"

Thousands of people from across the country will be voicing those words at Northwestern State University on Saturday, Oct. 6, 1984, when NSU celebrates its 100th anniversary with a special Centennial Homecoming program.

Ray Carney, director of external affairs at NSU, said a number of events designed for this unusual occasion are being planned for the Centennial Homecoming celebration.

Several activities already have been scheduled for the Thursday and Friday before Saturday's official observance of the university's Centennial.

On Thursday, Oct. 4, the Graduate "N" Club Hall of Fame induction banquet will be conducted at 6 p.m. in the Ballroom of the Student Union. All living members of the Hall of Fame will be given special invitations to attend.

Three events are set for Friday, Nov. 5. A nationally-known speaker will be selected to address the Centennial Convocation at 10 a.m. in the Fine Arts Auditorium of the A.A. Fredericks Center for Creative and Performing Arts.

Also Friday are the Homecoming Golf Tournament at 1 p.m. on the NSU Outdoor Recreation Complex and Natchitoches Country Club courses and the Alumni Jambalaya Dinner at 7 p.m. at the NSU Outdoor Recreation Complex.

One of the first events scheduled for Centennial Homecoming Day on Saturday is the Homecoming Parade at 10 a.m., which will feature several bands and numerous prize-winning floats.

The Alumni Luncheon is set for 12 noon in the Ballroom of the Student Union, where several special recognitions will be made.

The traditional pre-game show at 1:30 p.m. in Harry "Rags" Turpin Stadium will be followed at 2 p.m.

with the kickoff of the NSU-Southwest Texas State University football game.

Highlighting the game will be the formal presentation of the Centennial Homecoming Queen and a performance by the "Alumni Band of 100," an organization which will be comprised of one former NSU marching band member for each year that Northwestern has been in existence.

Post-game receptions by all academic departments and campus organizations are scheduled from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Tentatively set for 8 p.m. in Prather Coliseum is the university's 100th birthday party in which a specially-made birthday cake will be served. A dance, which is being called the "Birthday Ball," will follow at 9 p.m.

"There will be many more events added to the Centennial Homecoming program," assured Carney.

Fund Drive Begun For Special Potpourri Coverage

A fund drive has begun to assist the Potpourri staff in its preparation and production of a volume covering the 1984 year which will include highlights of Northwestern State University's Centennial celebration.

Former Potpourri editors Ed Pierson and E.P. Dohson, both of Natchitoches, are co-chairing the drive. All friends of the university, particularly former yearbook staff members and other alumni, are being invited to contribute to the fund.

The first contribution to this fund was made last summer by Mrs. Carrie Gelhausen Fiske of Monroe, who was graduated in the Spring of 1918. She was selected to be the editor of the 1918 Potpourri, an edition which was not published because of World War I.

"We believe that if we help the yearbook staff to produce a special volume, we will also help the university and all its friends," Pierson said.

Tentative plans for the book include color photographs of the year's events and a special section for nostalgia, according to Ezra Adams, professor of journalism and yearbook staff adviser.

Adams said the special section will include many historical photographs. The staff plans to invite Northwestern alumni to donate copies of old pictures they may have and receive credit for them in the yearbook.

Pierson indicated that copies of the Centennial issue of the yearbook will be available for purchase by alumni and other friends of the university. "It should be a real keepsake, and a valuable one," he said.

"The amount of coverage and the number of pages in the yearbook will be determined by the funds available to the yearbook staff," Pierson stated. "It is to be a special year, so let's help the staff to make their 1984 Potpourri a special volume."

Pierson said contributions will be accepted from now until next fall. All donations will be tax-deductable, and contributors will receive receipts.

Checks for the special fund should be made payable to the NSU Foundation-Potpourri and addressed to Ezra Adams, P.O. Box 5245, Northwestern State University, Natchitoches, La. 71497.

Co-Chairmen Named For NSU Centennial

Six faculty and staff members at Northwestern State are serving as co-chairmen of the NSU Centennial celebration, which begins in January and continues for the next 11 months.

The co-chairmen are Thomas N. Whitehead, associate professor of theatre-media arts and producer-director of the NSU Television Center; Mrs. Maxine Southerland, director of the Center for the History of Louisiana Education; Jerry Pierce, assistant to the president for external affairs; Ray Carney, director of external affairs; Dr. Fred C. Bosarge, dean of students; and John M. Price, associate professor of history of director of the NSU Press.



E.P. Dohson Jr., left, and Ed Pierson, second from left, both of Natchitoches, are co-chairmen of a fund drive to help support the publication of the 1984 Potpourri volume that will cover the Centennial events. Dohson was editor of the 1943 yearbook, and Pierson edited the 1935 edition. They are discussing the Potpourri and the fund drive with external affairs director Ray Carney, standing, NSU president Dr. Joseph J. Orze and current Potpourri editor Janice Williams of Pineville.



A Look Back

It was on Manday, Oct. 6, 1884 that the Louisiana General Assembly passed a bill creating a State Normal School to train persons of either sex who desired to teach in the state's public schools.

Soon after its creation, the State Board of Education selected Natchitoches as the location for State Normal School, which opened on Nov. 1, 1885, with 27 students and a faculty of three.

The metamorphosis of this great institution began the day it was created and, 100 years after its founding, the process is still incomplete. Throughout the eras of State Normal School, Louisiana State Normal School, Northwestern State College and now Northwestern State University, people and their lifestyles have changed as rapidly as the school's physical appearance.

This pictorial review of Northwestern's past is reflective of the traditions that have been established and of the genuine but reserved friendliness that has been characteristic of campus life at the university for a Century.





Women's Gymnasium at Corner of College Avenue and Caspari Street

A Dream List

For the Centennial celebration Mrs. Maxine Southerland, director of the Center for the History of Louisiana Education at Northwestern, has made out a dream list...one that is simple and brief.

She says, "If we could have only one wish fulfilled for the Center, it would be that in 1984 our new home on the NSU campus--the Old Women's Gymnasium--is renovated, re-wired, heated and air-conditioned."

"In short, we desperately need funds. If everyone reading this would donate only \$5 to the Center, we would raise \$100,000 toward our dream! We are asking the possible so that what was once considered impossible may be achieved."

"The Center for the History of Louisiana Education needs a place to grow. And this is a feasible, practical dream if everyone gives just a little. It's so easy and inexpensive to fulfill this dream! Why not do it today?"

Donations may be sent to Mrs. Maxine Southerland, Center for the History of Louisiana Education, Northwestern State University, Natchitoches, La. 71497.



MRS. MAXINE SOUTHERLAND

Former Women's Gymnasium Donated to Education Archives

Fourteen months ago, on Oct. 18, 1982, the Center for the History of Louisiana Education was destroyed in the fire which ravaged Caldwell Hall.

That night, all seemed lost.

"But today," said Center director Mrs. Maxine Southerland, "as we look back at the unbelievable progress made since that night of despair, we are able to say to our alumni, 'Fantastic! Thank you for your devotion and a job well done.'"

Because of the alumni's dedication and gifts, Mrs. Southerland said the Center "is once again a vital, growing part of Louisiana's heritage. We have grown and, in fact, outgrown our home in the Teacher Education Center at NSU."

Northwestern president Dr. Joseph J. Orze has solved the Center's growing pains by finding it a new home, the former Women's

Gymnasium at the corner of College Avenue and Caspari Street.

Built in 1923 and now the oldest campus building since Caldwell Hall burned, the Women's Gymnasium has been donated as the new facility to house the state education archives.

"Recently," Mrs. Southerland said, "we received the funds needed for the roofing of this charming old building, and that task will be immediately. Progress is being made daily!"

Exciting artifacts have been collected since the reconstruction of this outstanding museum began soon after the fire.

"We are running out of room to properly display these gifts and treasures in our temporary building," said Mrs. Southerland. "Expansion has become a necessity if we are to become the kind of museum of which Louisiana can be proud."

George Stokes: His Association With NSU Began In The Brick Shack

(continued from page 7)

request was honored, and more than 2,000 people attended the program at NSU and cheered the paraplegic soldier. "That program moved me as much as anything I have seen here," Stokes said.

He also remembered when, as a student, classmates regularly left the campus to enlist in the military service. "A friend would be here one day and on his way to battle the next," he says. "Those were emotional times."

Stokes still chuckles about some of the incidents in which he has been involved in more than three decades at Northwestern. One resulted from summer tours of the United States that he conducted in the late forties and early fifties.

"I had a young man and a young woman on one tour," he said, "and both had lost their spouses as a result of tragic illnesses. They had never met until the tour, but they fell in love on the trip and later married. Somehow, both of them credited me with their good fortune, although all I did was coordinate the tour."

"Anyway, I walked out of my office in Guardia one day and started across to the student center. Hundreds of students were wandering back and forth between the student center and the quadrangle when this fellow shouts at me from across the way and runs me down to hand me a fifth of Jack Daniels whiskey to show his appreciation for my part in his new marriage," Stokes laughed.

"I was standing there with a fifth of Jack Daniels in my hand with my students walking past me, completely aghast that the old teacher would be out there in the middle of the campus holding a bottle of whiskey. They didn't let me forget it."

Stokes is proud of Northwestern's progress during the past 34 years. "One of the most important changes," he says, "is the improvement of the faculty.

We had outstanding teachers then, but teachers now are better-prepared. More have doctorate degrees. They have been engaged in research, and they have a more diverse wealth of experience, knowledge and expertise.

He thinks the development of the new center for the creative and performing arts will "open doors to exciting new progress not just in academic but in the cultural growth of the community. It is the most outstanding facility of its kind in this region, and its potential to the university and Natchitoches is enormous."

Stokes says Watson Library "is also one of Northwestern's greatest assets. Its archives and historical collections are among the most extensive in Louisiana, and the library has a wealth of material for academic researchers."

In fact, Stokes plans to "spend a lot of my time there when I retire." He has written extensively on the cultural and geographical history of Louisiana and plans to "someday continue that research and writing."

Stokes' research, incidentally, helped lead to Northwestern's Normal Hill--the area around the old quadrangle--being placed on the National Register of Historic Places a few years ago. He considers that a major accomplishment "because of the importance of perpetuating the rich history of this great institution."

With the perspective of 34 years on the faculty and staff and a 45-year association with Northwestern, Stokes feels the university "has great days ahead of it. We have a superior physical plant, expansive academic offerings, location in a beautiful, friendly community and a 100-year-old tradition to build upon."

Stokes says the Centennial celebration "offers us an opportunity to reminisce about the past, but I think the most important part of the commemoration is that it will allow us to start giving serious thought to the future and to plan new directions for Northwestern in its second century."

Mrs. Thelma Kyser Was Gracious First Lady

Editor's Note: Mrs. Thelma Zelenka Kyser, a former Northwestern faculty member and widow of Dr. John S. Kyser, who served as Northwestern's president from 1954 until 1966, was asked to write her thoughts on serving as a university president's wife for the Alumni Columns. This is the article which she submitted.

I first came to Normal College in 1915 after graduation from Terebonne High School in Houma and received the two-year Louisiana teacher's certificate in 1917. Upon receiving the certificate, I taught in public schools in the state for four years.

In 1921, I returned to Normal as a student-teacher to work toward the A.B. degree to become a "full-fledged" teacher. After earning that degree in 1922, I remained on the faculty, teaching physical education, and I later received the master's degree from Columbia University.

But in the meantime--in 1924--I had married John S. Kyser, who also was on the Normal College faculty. He became head of the department of social sciences, and I "retired" from teaching in 1940.

At that time, I felt my "retirement" would be the end of my official services to Normal and Northwestern, but it was not to be. I returned to the campus in 1954 when my husband became president and was actively involved in the life of the college until his retirement in 1966.

In addition to attending to the needs and desires of a young daughter, I found that I had extensive duties as the wife of the college president. Those 12 years were surely the most exciting of my life.

I was the "official" delegate from the president's home for all teas, receptions, weddings, funerals and various other functions on campus and in the community. I willingly accepted my responsibility as the official hostess for the president's home, and the cottage was open to all students, faculty and the community at various times.

Many student groups were entertained at the home. They were always welcome. Christmas caroling by students at the home was an annual occasion, and student groups were always presented with boxes of candy or cookies, which I usually made myself.

We had an annual dinner for the Student Government Association. The menu was usually chicken and spaghetti, and I conducted lessons upon the students' request on the proper way to roll spaghetti with a spoon and fork as they did in Italy. The lessons led to spaghetti-eating contests among students.

When parents came on campus for graduation ceremonies, they were invited to the president's home and served sandwiches that were prepared assembly-style as they filed by the small kitchen of the house. There were no caterers on campus to provide such

service, so I and two assistants prepared the refreshments.

At one such occasion, hundreds of sandwiches had been prepared in advance, and when the last person left, there was one sandwich left on the plate. The president looked inquiringly at me and wondered why the food supply had been cut so close. I informed him that I had not anticipated those big football players standing at the table and downing five or six sandwiches each.



MRS. THELMA KYSER
1954-1966

The annual president's reception was a highlight of the opening of the fall semester. I enjoyed planning the event each year, and it was a happy occasion of the mingling of the town folk with the college family. Uniting the college and community at the reception was my idea, and I feel that it was beneficial and enjoyable. Refreshments were made at the president's home or by some faculty wives, and wives of faculty members helped serve as hostesses.

New faculty members were never forgotten. An informal "newcomers" party was always held at Christmas-time. We planned games and activities to let people get to know each other better, and the event allowed me and Dr. Kyser to show new faculty

that they were welcome and appreciated.

House directors from the dormitories were always honored at a Christmas party in the president's home and received gifts. They always seemed to enjoy the special decorations I prepared and placed in the cottage. The old Normandy interior of the house with its beautiful stairway, parquet floors and ceilings of hand-cut beams lent itself to an appropriate setting for Christmas festivities.

Many amusing as well as tragic events occurred which demanded my attention with both students and faculty. One evening, the president and I attended a student dance. The loud music and artful gyrations of the students were disturbing to Dr. Kyser. On the way home, he asked, "What can we do about that?" I said, "Nothing, just join them."

Upon retiring after midnight, the doorbell rang, and Dr. Kyser reluctantly went downstairs to see who was there at such a time of the morning. It was a student saying that the band would not go home until they received their pay for the dance. He had to write a personal check for the band and came upstairs fussing about the cost of such a horribly noisy band. I think the Student Government Association later reimbursed him.

There was the time when students flocked over the garden and terrace to demand a holiday for a football victory. Dr. Kyser was very thrifty. He even left the home at times to go turn out lights in Caldwell Hall. So he refused to grant the holiday because it was too expensive.

We were warned that the students would be swarming to the president's home to seek a holiday later, so we left the cottage. The students sat in the street blocking traffic and were arrested and jailed. Dr. Kyser called the police and asked them to release the students. Some were female students, and he didn't want the incident to go on their records.

Political leaders, board members and other "very important people" were also entertained often at the president's home. Most of the time, they had meals with us and spent the night in the guest room.

I tried to always be at my husband's side for all student activities, even for the hundreds of banquets where the cold food and tough meat was served. I was at football games, musical programs, dramatic productions, pep rallies, special celebrations, anything that demanded the presence of "the president's wife."

But I never interfered with university academic policy or procedure. I listened to the president's problems and offered suggestions if they were requested. Mostly, though, I simply worked to be a gracious hostess for students, faculty, the community and special guests of the college. That is why I was so pleased to be recognized when Dr. Kyser retired with a special plaque from students and faculty citing me as the "gracious first lady of the campus."

Other Presidents' Wives Who Are Living



MRS. CAROL ORZE
1982-Present



MRS. CATHERINE BIENVENU
1978-1982



MRS. JUANITA KILPATRICK
1966-1978



MRS. MARJORIE FREDERICKS
1934-1941



PROFESSOR NOBLE MORRISON

Endowment Honors Professor

Noble Morrison Exemplifies Pride

The pride of the past of business at Northwestern State University may best be exemplified by Professor Noble B. Morrison of Natchitoches.

In 1930 Professor Morrison became the first teacher of commerce at Louisiana State Normal College, now NSU. Thirty-five years later he retired, leaving a legacy of learning that has produced many outstanding business practitioners and educators throughout the nation.

The fact that Professor Morrison is currently quite active at First Federal Savings and Loan of Natchitoches as a director reflects the endurance of this man and his teaching.

Former Northeast Louisiana University president Dr. George T. Walker, an alumnus of the NSU business program, approached Northwestern officials in the fall of 1983 to encourage the establishment of an endowment in the NSU Foundation to honor Professor Morrison and to ensure that business will have the opportunity to continue its rich heritage.

The Noble Morrison Endowment's return will provide funds for student scholarships and faculty development.

Mrs. Willia Hamby Sewell, hired 23 years ago by Professor Morrison, is serving the faculty coordinator of the campaign to raise funds for the endowment. "My respect and admiration of Professor

Morrison will serve as the foundation for my commitment to a successful program," said Mrs. Sewell.

Details of the endowment program are presently being developed. A network of personal contacts leading to the Noble Morrison Scholarship and Distinguished Alumni Banquet on March 31 is underway and will continue through the Spring. Since the Caldwell Hall fire in 1982 destroyed many records, College of Business alumni and other individuals interested in participating in the Noble Morrison Endowment should call (318) 357-5611 or write Mrs. Willia H. Sewell, Department of Accounting and Computer Information Systems, Northwestern State University, Natchitoches, La. 71497.

Dr. Barry Smiley, who was appointed last spring as dean of the College of Business and Applied Sciences, has stated that the funds raised are quite critical to the future of the business programs at Northwestern.

"We must be able to provide worthy students an opportunity to learn at Northwestern," said Smiley. "It's a shame that they have to stay at home and go to an urban university because they cannot afford to come to Natchitoches and have a full campus life with all its educational diversions."

Morrison Organized LSNC Commerce Trade Program

Noble B. Morrison came to Louisiana State Normal College in 1930 as the first teacher of commerce and trade, an academic department he organized and headed as chairman until his retirement in 1965.

A native of Osage City, Kan., Professor Morrison received the bachelor's degree from the College of Emporia in Kansas and the master's degree from the University of Iowa.

He also did advanced studies at Columbia University in New York and at Denver University.

Professor Morrison served as business manager of Ewerhart Camps, Inc., in St. Louis, Mo., and Three Lakes, Wisc., for five years before moving to Louisiana State Normal College, now NSU.

A well-known educator, he was elected three times to serve as president of the Louisiana State Business Teachers Association and was also secretary of the Southern Business Association.

Professor Morrison is the author of *The Typist's Reference Manual* and "Your Income Tax," a series of newspaper columns which were published in weekly and daily newspapers throughout the state.

Associated with First Federal Savings and Loan of Natchitoches in various capacities since 1935, Professor Morrison is still a member of its board of directors and executive committee.

He added, "Another aspect is with reduced state funding...our faculty have less opportunity and financial support for their continued professional development. Our nation's business and technological information base is changing so quickly that we must provide them with retooling opportunities."

"This endowment, if successful," said Smiley, "could be the most significant factor determining our degree of success or failure for the next 25 years."

Home Economics Department Planning Centennial Reunion

The Home Economics Department at Northwestern is planning a get-together with its alumni on Friday, Oct. 5, 1984, in conjunction with the NSU Centennial Homecoming program.

Tentatively scheduled are a historic tour of homes from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. and the Home Economics Alumni Centennial Supper at 4 p.m. in the Living Room of the Home Economics Department.

For additional information, call (318) 357-5587 or write Dr. Virginia Crossno, Home Economics Department, Northwestern State University, Natchitoches, La. 71497.

Souvenirs of a Century

Archives Exhibit Opens in January

One of the many highlights of Northwestern State University's Centennial celebration is an exhibit, entitled "Souvenirs of a Century," which will be on display all year in 1984 in the Cammie G. Henry Research Center of the Eugene P. Watson Memorial Library.

Mildred Lee, a library staff member, is arranging the university's 100-year exhibit, which will open in January and remain on display through December. Viewing hours are 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Fridays.

Other major exhibitions in the Cammie G. Henry Research Center that have been planned and executed by Mrs. Lee include "Writers Along the Cane," which opened in the fall of 1982 and featured 25 fictional writers who have lived in or written about the Natchitoches-Cane River area; "The Versatile Miss Caroline," developed in 1977 from the NSU archives' prized collection of Caroline Dormon material, and "Ninety Years at NSU" in 1974.

According to Mrs. Lee, "Souvenirs of a Century" will be divided into 10-year eras. It will be mostly pictorial, featuring photographs of people, buildings and campus scenes, but will also include objects, books, letters, papers from time capsules."

"The exhibit will go back to the very beginning," she said. "Artifacts from within each 10-year period will be displayed in separate showcases. We will try to cover it all with interesting material about rules, regulations, old traditions, pieces of equipment and changing styles of campus life. There will be a lot of photographs, many very rare."

The 15 presidents of Northwestern, from Edward E. Sheib in 1885 to Dr. Joseph J. Orze in 1983-84, will occupy one of the exhibit cases.

For additional information about the "Souvenirs of a Century" exhibit in 1984, call (318) 357-4585 or write Mrs. Mildred Lee, Cammie G. Henry Research Center, Eugene P. Watson Memorial Library, Northwestern State University, Natchitoches, La. 71497.



From the Potpourri: The Domestic Science Department-Cooking School

First Blue Key Focus

Roland McKneely Was Mr. NSU, Student Body President

Editor's Note: This feature article on a Blue Key alumnus is the first in a series to acquaint Northwestern and Blue Key alumni about the post-graduate careers and lives of Blue Key members who were designated by their fellow students as Mr. NSU during their Northwestern careers. By arrangement between the Office of External Affairs and Blue Key Alumni Chapter officers, this Focus and other blue Key alumni reports will become on-going features of the Alumni Columns.

Roland McKneely Jr., Mr. NSU in 1962, was born in Blanchard, La., and attended public schools there until the ninth grade, when he transferred to C.E. Byrd High School in Shreveport.

McKneely entered Northwestern State College, now NSU, in 1958 and immediately became involved with student government. He was elected vice-president of his freshman class, president of the sophomore class, vice-president of the student body in his junior year and president of the student body in his senior year.

Roland became a member of Blue Key National Honor Fraternity at the conclusion of his sophomore year. While at Northwestern, he also was elected to membership in Phi Kappa Phi and Phi Eta Sigma, the latter a national honor academic fraternity for men.

The former Mr. NSU was married when a freshman, and had a son by his sophomore year. He and his wife were house directors in West Hall dormitory where he did an outstanding job of counseling and directing the activities of an all-freshman group.

Roland has been one of the relatively few students to have been elected president of the student body and to also hold the honor of being elected Mr. NSU.

Upon graduation from Northwestern, he entered Louisiana State University Law School during the Fall semester of 1962 and graduated in the upper 10 percent of his class in the Summer of 1965. While at LSU, Roland received a law scholarship from Standard Oil. He passed his state bar exam in 1965 and, as a Northwestern ROTC graduate, im-

mediately was called to active military service in the Judge Advocate General Corps. Most of his military service time was spent at Fort Hood, Tex.

Following his discharge from military service, Roland became an active lawyer in Alexandria, La., but after a few months moved to Bossier City. He served the city of Bossier City as assistant chief investigator, then the parishes of Bossier and Webster as first assistant district attorney. As first assistant district attorney, he was concurrently conducting a private law practice. In 1979 he opted to terminate his services with the District Attorney's office because of the increased workload in his private practice. Presently, his law offices are located in the Bossier Bank Building in Bossier City.

Roland has two sons and two daughters. He is very active in the Boys Club of Shreveport, having held several offices in this organization. He is also very active as a coach and referee for Golden Gloves and Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) boxing and has appeared several times at Northwestern for the Kappa Alpha Boxing Tournament for Muscular Dystrophy.

A Mason and member of the Baptist Church, Roland owns a farm where he goes to relax when time permits. His recent comment concerning undergraduate college experiences was most favorable. He says, "I would not hesitate, if I had my life to live over, to spend my four years of undergraduate work at the friendliest university in Louisiana, Northwestern State University."



ROLAND MCKNEELY JR.

Northwestern's Blue Key Alumni: Chapter Will Be The First In The United States

Officers from Blue Key National Honor Fraternity headquarters in New Orleans will be on the Northwestern State University campus Saturday, April 28, to conduct the official ceremony chartering the NSU Blue Key Alumni Chapter.

During the summer of 1983, Northwestern officials were notified by the national office of Blue Key that the NSU Blue Key Alumni Chapter had been approved and would have the distinction of being the first alumni chapter of Blue Key anywhere in the United States.

The chartering ceremonies are scheduled during the annual Blue Key Banquet, which is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. in the Student Union Ballroom. The banquet is being planned as the culmination of a day-long celebration of the 25th anniversary of the Blue Key at Northwestern.



LEONARD NICHOLS

The Silver Anniversary of Blue Key at Northwestern is one of the major highlights of NSU's Centennial Celebration in 1984.

The Blue Key undergraduate chapter was founded at Northwestern on Dec. 9 1959. The founding adviser was Leonard O. Nichols, retired dean of men and the NSU Blue Key adviser from 1959 to 1970.

NSU dean of students Dr. Frederick C. Bosarge, the Blue Key adviser since 1970, said Blue Key alumni will be receiving additional information by mail prior to the banquet.

According to Bosarge, the schedule for Saturday afternoon will include a full meeting of the NSU Blue Key Alumni Chapter, which will be reviewing its accomplishments of the past year and plans for the future. Tours for families of Blue Key alumni are also being planned.

In addition to the chartering ceremonies, other highlights of the Blue Key Banquet will be the presentation of the Leonard Nichols Award to the most dependable and responsive chapter member, the Dudley Fulton Award to a student, faculty or staff member for meaningful contributions to NSU and the Fred C. Bosarge Award to an outstanding junior member in Blue Key.

The Blue Key Alumni Chapter was formally established at Northwestern on April 30, 1983. Nichols is president of the alumni chapter, and Bosarge is the vice-president. Jimmy Berry, principal of the NSU Middle Laboratory School, is the recording secretary, and the treasurer is Leonard Blanton, an accountant for Western Electric in Shreveport.

The two main objectives of the Blue Key Alumni Chapter are to provide a continuing connection between Blue Key alumni both with each other and with the university, and to provide continuing service to Northwestern in terms of scholarship programs and recruitment activities.

According to Bosarge, progress has been toward the eventual establishment of a Blue Key Alumni Scholarship at Northwestern.

The NSU dean of students also said that provisions have been made for Northwestern Blue Key memorabilia to be placed in the Center for the History of Louisiana Education, the state education archives which is located on the NSU campus.

Brig. Gen Bonsall Returns to NSU

One of the first students to enter the Northwestern ROTC program and maybe the first Army officer commissioned through the program to attain the rank of general was at NSU on Nov. 11, 1983, as the special guest for Army ROTC Day and Veteran's Day activities.

Retired Army Brig. Gen. James Bonsall of Bastrop received a bachelor of science degree in elementary education and a commission as an Army officer through the Senior ROTC program at Northwestern.

A 1952 graduate of NSU, he formally served as assistant division commander of the 95th Training Division at Midwest City, Okla.

Although the Northwestern ROTC Alumni Chapter has generated excitement, enthusiasm and a solid membership corps, Maj. Fred Terasa of the university's Military Science Department says the chapter needs help in locating former cadets.

Since its organization in 1951, the Northwestern ROTC Detachment has commissioned over 700 NSU graduates. "Naturally," states Terasa, "a majority of these officers leave the Natchitoches area and the state in pursuit of their military careers."

He said, "In an effort to contact the hundreds of ROTC graduates we have not heard from, we request that all ROTC graduates, cadre and friends send us information about yourself or an ROTC buddy."

The information form provided should be mailed as soon as possible to the ROTC Alumni Chapter.

Upcoming events for the Northwestern ROTC Alumni Chapter include sponsoring the ROTC alumni reception at the 1984 Military Ball on April 6.

1984 Calendar Highlights

JANUARY

- 12 Demons vs. Houston Baptist University
Prather Coliseum 7:30 pm
- 13-14 Lady Demons at Lady Pack Classic
Reno, Nevada
District II LMEA Honor Band
CAPAC All Day
- 14 Demons vs. Hardin Simmons University
Prather Coliseum 7:30 pm
- 23 NSU Artist Series--Glenda Mourice, Soprano
Recital Hall, CAPAC 8:00 pm
- 24 Lady Demons vs. Grambling State
Prather Coliseum 7:30 pm
- 25 Centennial Kick-Off Banquet
Ballroom 6:30 pm
- 27-28 District II LMEA Honor Choir
CAPAC All Day
- 31 Demons vs. Southeastern Louisiana University
Prather Coliseum 7:30 pm

APRIL

- 6 Military Ball
Ballroom 7:00 pm
- 8 Shreveport Boy Choir Concert
Recital Hall, CAPAC 3:00 pm
- 9-14 University Players: "Twelfth Night"
Theatre West, CAPAC 7:30 pm
- 9-12 Medieval-Renaissance Fair
Alumni House & Grounds All Day
- 12-14 South Central Renaissance Conference
Campus All Day
- 27 Natchitoches-Northwestern Symphony Orchestra
Concert Fine Arts Auditorium 8:00 pm
SUGB Awards Banquet
Ballroom 7:30 pm
- 28 Blue Key Banquet
Ballroom 6:30 pm

FEBRUARY

- 3-4 NSU High School Speech Tournament
Student Union & CAPAC All Day
- 8 National Players: A Midsummer Night's Dream
Fine Arts Auditorium 8:00 pm
- 17 Lady of the Bracelet Pageant
Fine Arts Auditorium 7:00 pm
- 18 Lady Demons & Demons vs. Centenary
Prather Coliseum 5:45 pm & 8 pm
- 22 NSU Symphonic Band Concert
Fine Arts Auditorium 8:00 pm
- 23 Demons vs. Samford University
Prather Coliseum 7:30 pm
- 25 Demons vs. Ark.-Little Rock University
Prather Coliseum 8:00 pm
- 27 Walter Porter Forum
Student Union & Kyser Hall 9:00 am-2:00 pm
- 27-29 University Players: "I'm Getting My Act Together..."
Theatre West, CAPAC 7:30 pm

MAY

- 2 Intramural Sports Award Nite
Ballroom 8:00 pm
- 4 St. Denis Art League Spring Festival
Ballroom 8:00 pm
- 7 Photography Seminar
Fine Arts Auditorium 8:00 am-8:00 pm
- 19 Commencement
Prather Coliseum 10:00 pm
- 20 Natchitoches Suzuki Institute Recital
Recital Hall, CAPAC 2:00 pm
- 30 Registration
Prather Coliseum All Day
- 31 Classes Begin

MARCH

- 2 Natchitoches/Northwestern Symphony's CAPAC
Dedictory Concert
Fine Arts Auditorium 8:00 pm
- 12 Former Astronaut Scott Carpenter
Fine Arts Auditorium 10:00 am
- 14-15 10th annual Kappa Alpha MDA Boxing Tournament
Prather Coliseum 7:30 pm - Champions Reunion
- 16 Centennial Reunion for Student Personnel Association
Ballroom 11:00 am
- 16-18 NSU Intercollegiate Rodeo 8:00 pm Friday & Saturday
2:00 pm Sunday NSU Rodeo Arena
- 19-23 Union Week
- 31 NSU Invitational Concert Band Festival
Fine Arts Auditorium 8:00 am-8:00 pm
Noble Morrison Scholarship & Distinguished
Alumni Banquet Ballroom 7:30 pm

JUNE

- 7 1984 Natchitoches Folk Festival Press Preview
Williamson Museum 9:00 am-1:30 pm
- 17-22 Music Camp
CAPAC 8:00 am-10:00 pm
- 24-28 Mens' Basketball Camp
Prather Coliseum 9:00 am-10:00 pm

...For The Centennial Year

JULY

- 8-12 Girls Basketball Camp
Prather Coliseum 8:00 am-10:00 pm
Campus Activities Fair Festival
Prather Coliseum 8:00 pm-11:00 pm
11 am-11:30 pm Saturday, 11 am-11:30 pm Sunday

OCTOBER

- 4 Graduate "N" Club Hall of Fame Banquet
Ballroom 6:00 pm
5 Centennial Foundation
Campus Activities Fair Festival
Homecoming Game Tournament
Recreation Complex 1:00 pm
6 Homecoming Parade
Campus-Downtown 10:00 am
NSU vs. Southwest Texas
Turpin Stadium 2:00 pm
Centennial Birthday Cake & Homecoming Dance
Prather Coliseum 8:00 pm
Sigma Kappa Alumni Reunion
Sigma Kappa House 11:00 am-2:00 pm
20 NSU vs. LA Tech (State Fair)
Shreveport, LA 7:00 pm

AUGUST

- 28-29 Registration
Prather Coliseum All Day
30 Classes Begin
Kicking Off Party
Prather Coliseum 6:00 pm

NOVEMBER

- 2 Sigma Kappa Fall Dance
Ballroom 8:00 pm
3 NSU vs. Southern Mississippi
Hattiesburg, Mississippi 7:30 pm
4-11 Sigma Kappa Week of Giving
Campus All Day
9 Sigma Kappa Founders Day: 110th Anniversary
Campus All Day
10 NSU vs. Southeastern
Hammond, LA 7:30 pm
17 NSU vs. Stephen F. Austin
Nacogdoches, TX 7:30 pm

SEPTEMBER

- 1 NSU vs. McNeese
Lake Charles, LA 7:30 pm
8 NSU vs. Angelo State
San Angelo, TX 7:30 pm
22 NSU vs. Abilene Christian
Turpin Stadium 7:00 pm
29 NSU vs. Northeast
Monroe, LA 7:00 pm

DECEMBER

- 1 Natchitoches Christmas Festival
Downtown All Day
SUGB Christmas Festival Concerts
Prather Coliseum 8:30 pm
22 Commencement
Prather Coliseum 10:00 pm

(Whitehead continued from page 2)
major happenings. It is not too late for a group to get in on the Centennial celebration. If you were in an organization at Northwestern, why not contact the Alumni Office on campus to assist in locating the current campus officers and get an event planned. There is no better impetus for an organization to get to work on a Centennial reunion than an alumnus to offer the incentive of interest and a willingness to help. And don't overlook non-organized groups such as the residents of your dorm floor or perhaps just a carload of you that used to go to Old Maggios Drive-in Window on Thursday afternoons after chemistry lab.

Another issue of the Alumni Columns in the Spring will have space available for news of your group's plans and will also help locate any "lost" members. Contact Jim Johnson at the News Bureau (318-357-6466) or Ray Carney at the Alumni Affairs (318-357-4414) for assistance in getting any ideas you might have underway.

The Centennial Celebration will certainly have serious moments, as it should, when an institution of higher learning such as Northwestern reflects back on its achievements in providing college-educated individuals for 100 years. A major influence in developing the public education system of Louisiana came from the Normal graduates who probably have worked in every school of the state. Then there are the thousands of graduates since our alma mater achieved college status in the 1930's who have branched out into every phase of government, business, industry, and public service. Note will be made throughout the year of the accomplishments of individuals who graduated from here.

However, our year-long celebration will be a "fun" event. Reminiscing, nostalgia, telling old stories, seeing friends from the past—these are all a part of the celebration which will have special meaning for us all.

As one that has become personally excited over the last months working on the Centennial, I urge you to start thinking about our alma mater's 100th birthday and how you can be a part of it. Whether by participating in one of the formal events, coming to a reunion, purchasing a poster or just reflecting back on your days at Northwestern and how they have affected your life—these are some of the ways you can be a part of the party.

Happy Birthday, Northwestern, and Come celebrate with us!

KA Reunion Set for April

Gamma Psi chapter of the Kappa Alpha Order established at Northwestern State University in 1963 will have an alumni reunion on Saturday, April 7, 1984, in conjunction with the chapter's annual Old South celebration.

The reunion program will be at 1 p.m. with the Lawn Party festivities at Beau Fort Plantation, followed by a banquet later that afternoon. Specific details will be announced at a later date.

Medieval-Renaissance Fair Planned

A Medieval-Renaissance Fair, an occasion for merriment and festivity in a setting from the 16th Century, is scheduled April 9-14 on the Northwestern State University campus.

The unique fair, which will attempt to re-create a distinctive part of an era, is being developed for presentation in conjunction with the South-Central Renaissance Conference on April 12-14 at NSU.

Joseph A. Johnson, associate professor of English at NSU, is chairman of local arrangements for the conference and is coordinating the development of the Medieval-Renaissance Fair.

Johnson says, "Our fair is being patterned after actual fairs in Medieval and Renaissance England and after similar fairs in Texas,

California, Connecticut and Minnesota."

"The one we are planning," he says, "would stress student, faculty and local participation. Besides the booths for foods, drinks, exhibits and games, we should have poets, musicians, cut-purses, bawds, clowns, acrobats, woodsmen, fencers, alchemists, gypsies, publicans, lords, ladies, clerics, scholars, tradesmen, artisans and dancing girls."

The NSU professor said such events allow participants and spectators to learn about and enter into the spirit of an age, a world quite different from their own.

The South-Central Renaissance Conference is an academic organization, a constituent member of The Renaissance Society of America. It has over 175 members from a seven-stage area.

It is also an interdisciplinary organization which includes literature, history, art, philosophy, sports, science, drama, commerce, sociology, dance, and music.

There are plans to include events in the conference that will involve students, faculty and townspeople. "I hope we can offer such things as a panel discussion on humanism, a display or a discussion of science in the Middle Ages and Renaissance, a concert, an art exhibit, a film or a play production."

For additional information about the Medieval-Renaissance Fair or the South-Central Renaissance Conference, call (318) 357-6608 or write Joseph A. Johnson, Department of Languages, Northwestern State University, Natchitoches, La. 71497.

CAPC Will Be Dedicated With Concert

The A.A. Fredericks Center for the Creative and Performing Arts of Northwestern State University will be officially dedicated Friday, March 2, with a concert featuring violinist Zina Schiff as soloist.

Miss Schiff, who has appeared internationally with some of the world's greatest musicians, is being featured here with the Natchitoches-

Northwestern Symphony Orchestra.

The dedicatory concert, conducted by Dr. J. Robert Smith, will begin at 8 p.m. in the Fine Arts Auditorium.

The concert which features Miss Schiff in a performance of Tchaikovsky's "Concerto for Violin and Orchestra," is being dedicated to the memory of Martha Roberson, the first president of the Natchitoches-Northwestern Symphony Society.

An exceptional talent as a youth, Miss Schiff "is becoming a giant in the world of music," said Smith. She has performed on the concert stage with such artists as Itzhak Perlman, Zubin Mehta, Andre Kostelanetz and Arthur Fieldler.

Miss Schiff, who recorded the violin solo for the movie "The Fixer" when she was 16, has ap-

peared with major orchestras throughout the United States and has given recitals at Carnegie Hall and the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York and at Wigmore Hall in London.

Other performances have been presented throughout North America, Eastern and Western Europe, and in Israel.

The last time she performed at Northwestern was in 1982, when she was the guest artist for the Watson Award Benefit Concert.

The \$11 million Center for the Creative and Performing Arts was designed to accommodate the new School of Creative and Performing Arts at NSU. It allows interaction of music, art, theatre and dance programs and activities while serving as a cultural center for the community and region.

Symposium Honors Ulam

A "festschrift" symposium for one of the leading mathematicians in the world will be among the academic highlights of the Centennial celebration at Northwestern.

Oct. 26, 1984, will find some of the world's top mathematicians gathered at Northwestern to honor Stanislaw Ulam, a man of all subjects,

During his career, Dr. Ulam has made major contributions to a number of areas including nuclear physics, statistical mechanics, probability theory, topology, measure theory and chemistry.

Few areas of applied mathematics have failed to feel Ulam's influence.

The two-day meeting will feature both historical and recent research based upon Dr. Ulam's work.

NSU-Natchitoches To Host LHA

The 1984 annual meeting of the Louisiana Historical Association will be held March 29-31 at Northwestern State University and in Natchitoches.

The LHA meeting was awarded to NSU and Natchitoches as one of the special activities commemorating Northwestern's Centennial Celebration. This will also be the 50th anniversary of Phi Alpha Theta honorary society in history at Northwestern and the 100th anniversary of the American Historical Association.

Mr. and Miss NSU 1956-1983

YEAR	Mr. NSU	Miss NSU
1956	Dick Brown	Billie Walker
1957	Shirral Jennings	Beverly Anthony
1958	Shelly Richardson	Mary Ferguson
1959	Billy Jack Booth	Barbara Brown
1960	L.C. Cathey	Judy Wright
1961	Roland McKneely, Jr.	Linda Corley
1962	Leonard W. Blanton, Jr.	Leah Rogers
1963	Jesse Wayne Crooks	Lucy Nell Jolner
1964	Jimmy Berry	Barbara Martin
1965	J.O. Charrier	Bettie Moore
1966	Al Dodd	Pam Rushing
1967	Dennis Newberry	Ginger Foshee
1968	Henry Burns	Janlee Lowe
1969	Jerry Masters	Susan Brumfield
1970	Richard Ware	Margaret Kovar
1971	Allen Posey	Lynn Killen
1972	Greg O'Quinn	Kathy Breazeale
1973	Jack Damleo	Nina Martin
1974	Oben Jones	Helen Coutee
1975	Joe Sllman	Paula Jones
1976	Stan Haynes	Donna King
1977	Gregg Manning	Liz Posey
1978	John McKellar	Mary Lyn Bartek
1979	Terry McCarty	Diane McKellar
1980	Jim Hoops	Karen Murphy
1981	Cliff Lopez	Sherrie Talley
1982	Lytt Allen	Cindy Duke
1983	Stanley Powell	Allson Breazeale

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Super Derby Festival-

Louisiana Downs, Inc.

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Mr. and Mrs. L.J. Shannon

Mr. and Mrs. Lytton R. Allen

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The Alumni Columns
Northwestern State University
Natchitoches, La. 71497



Northwestern State University

ALUMNI COLUMNS

Natchitoches, Louisiana

Winter, 1983

Northwestern
Looks Back On
One Hundred Years



Celebration of a Century 1884~1984



ALUMNI INFORMATION UPDATE HELP US KEEP YOU INFORMED!

Name _____ SSN: _____
Maiden Name _____
Street _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
NSU Curriculum _____ Class of _____
Degree(s) _____ Date _____
Organizations involved with at NSU _____
Place of Employment _____
Company Employed By _____
Title and/or Duties _____
Occupation _____
Married _____
Single _____
Spouse Name _____ Maiden Name _____ NSU Graduate _____
If so, Year graduated _____
() Please Change my Address to that above _____
Number of Children _____ Ages _____
If college age, where attending college? _____
() Please send admissions information from NSU _____
() Please send Financial Aid Information from NSU _____
Send Information to: _____

Above personal information is necessary to organize
Centennial Class and organizational reunions!

Please Send Me Information About The Following:

- ☐ Alumni Chapter in my area. Comments for Alumni News
☐ Information on Caldwell
☐ Hall Brick and Print Sale.
☐ Centennial Celebration
☐ Matching Gift Program
☐ 1984 Natchitoches Folk Festival
☐ Noble Morrison Endowment

